

HUMPHRIES
MCGUINNESS
ANKA

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

FARMER
GRACIA
MAILO

THE BLACK VORTEX™



THE SAGA BEGINS HERE!

MARVEL

AR

ALPHA



WELL?

WHO'S
GONNA BE
THE FIRST TO
TRY IT?

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

When a blood bounty was placed on Peter Quill's head, Peter found himself hounded by a group of mercenaries called the Slaughter Squad, henchmen of the mysterious Mister Knife. Upon being captured by the Squad, Peter found himself face-to-face with Knife, who he discovered was, in fact, his father, J-Son, the deposed Emperor of Spartax. Though Kitty Pryde, Peter's new girlfriend, arrived in time to save Peter from being brainwashed by his father, they both remain unaware of Knife's true plan.

Having obtained an object of unimaginable cosmic power known as the Black Vortex and recruited the son of Thanos, Thane, to his cause, it looks like Mister Knife's quest to reclaim control of the galaxy may be a greater threat than they know.

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X-Men created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby

**TWELVE BILLION YEARS AGO.
PLANET VISCAROI.**

**WE HAVE
LIFTOFF!**





OUR HOPES
AND PRAYERS
GO WITH YOU,
BRAVE STAR
SCOUTS!



NINE ROCKETS.
NINE FAILURES.

WE MADE IT
FROM THE CAVES
TO THE SKY IN FOUR
GENERATIONS--
IS THIS IT?

HAVE WE
REACHED THE
CEILING OF THE
COSMOS?

IMPOSSIBLE.

WE KNOW
THERE IS **MORE**
OUT THERE THAN JUST
US. WE KNOW THERE IS
MORE TO THE UNIVERSE
THAN JUST THE
VISCARDI.

WE KNOW
BECAUSE OF
YOU, OUR LORD
GODHEAD.

YOU TOWER
ABOVE US AND
NEVER SPEAK! NEVER
CONCEDE OUR
EXISTENCE!

DOES
OUR BRAVERY
NOT MOVE YOU?
DOES OUR AMBITION
NOT INSPIRE
YOU?

I AM GARA!
I WILL LIVE WITH
THE STARS! CAN
YOU NOT HEAR
ME?!

HAVE YOU NEVER
FELT LONGING AS WE
DO? HAVE YOU NEVER
DREAMED HIGHER THAN
YOUR GRASP?

DO YOU
NOT LOVE US? WE
ONLY WISH TO BE
CLOSER TO YOU...
TO KNOW THE
COSMOS.

GRRRRN



KAZZRN

DEAR
GODHEAD.
WHAT IS
THIS?
CAN
IT BE....?





IS IT A
GIFT?

THE
ANSWER TO OUR
PRAYERS?

OUR POTENTIAL...
REALIZED?

"YOU HAVE
GONE TOO
FAR--"

THE JEAN GREY SCHOOL
FOR HIGHER LEARNING.
EARTH.

--AND YOU
KNOW IT, HANK.
YOU BROKE IT,
YOU FIX IT.

I HAVE
BROKEN
NOTHING,
STORM.

THE
ORIGINAL
X-MEN HAVE BEEN
MISPLACED
IN THE TIME-
STREAM.

THEY'RE
NOT MISPLACED,
I BROUGHT
THEM HERE.

I KNOW
ENOUGH ABOUT
TIME AND SPACE TO
KNOW THAT THIS IS
A PROBLEM.

NONE OF US
KNOW ENOUGH
TO KNOW WHAT
IS HAPPENING.

**THAT IS THE
PROBLEM!**

I CONCEDE...I
DON'T UNDERSTAND THE
FULL CONSEQUENCES OF
THE DISPLACEMENT. THE TIME-
SPACE CONTINUUM IS TOO
COMPLICATED...

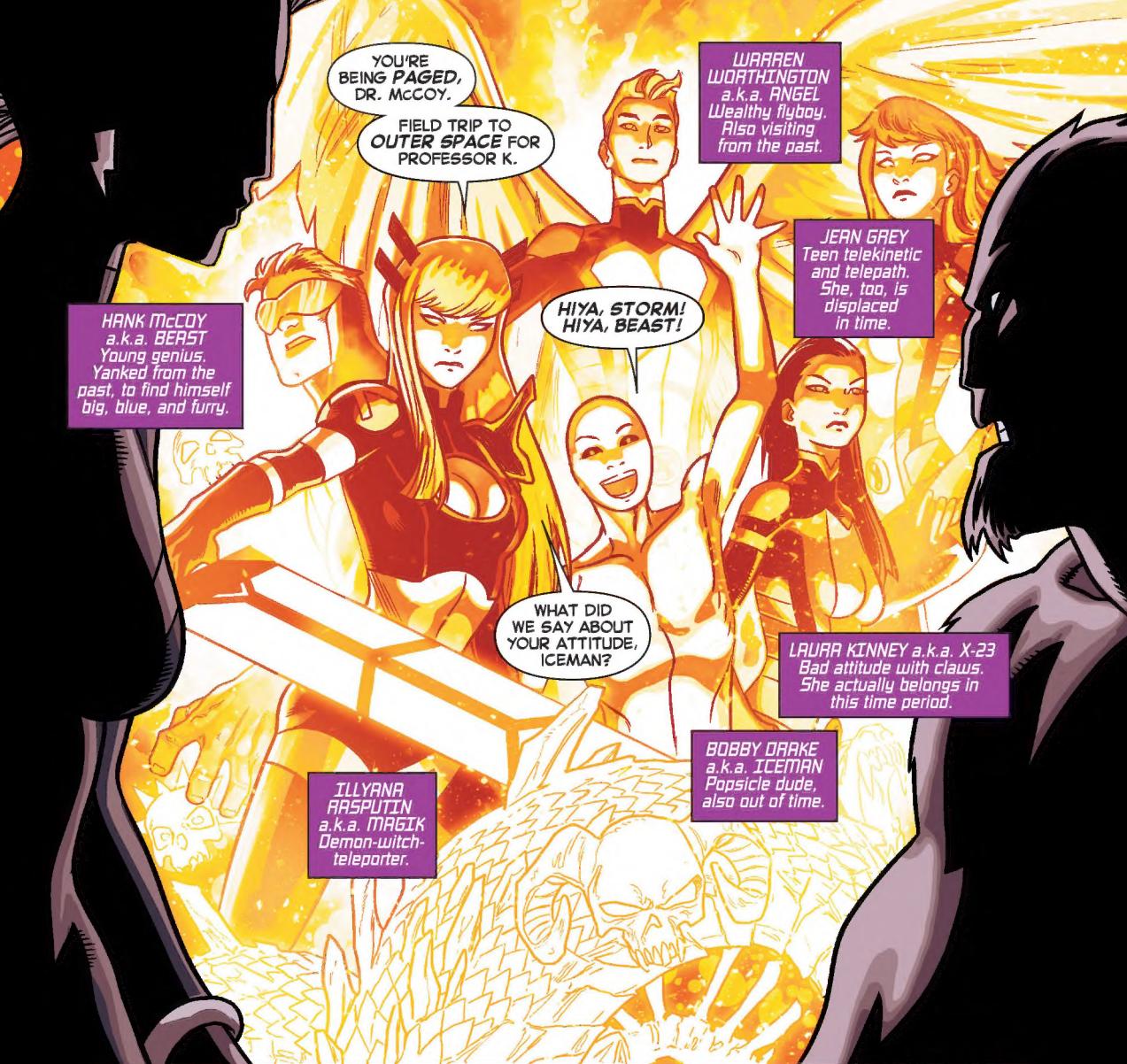
ORODO MUNROE
a.k.a. STORM
X-Men leader.
Weather master.

DOCTOR HANK MCCOY
a.k.a. BEAST
Big blue furry genius.

KZZANK

HANK,
LOOK!

IF I COULD
SEE IT ALL AT
ONCE--



THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY SHIP.

IF I SAY THE KREE DUDE CAN BREATHE FIRE, THEN GUESS WHAT?

THAT KRUTAKER BELCHES LIKE A BLOWTORCH!

I AM GROOT?

BECAUSE I'M THE GAME MASTER, THAT'S WHY!

GROOT
He is Groot.



ROCKET RACCOON
Big mouth, big guns.
Don't call him a raccoon.

GAMORA
Most dangerous woman in the galaxy.

FOR MY MOVE, I KILL THE GAME MASTER.

FOR MY MOVE, I TAKE OVER AS GAME MASTER.

DRAAX
Body of muscle, heart of stone.

FLASH THOMPSON
a.k.a AGENT VENOM
Elite soldier with sentient alien armor

I'M SICK OF HAVING MY CHARACTER'S HAND STUCK IN A SKRULL'S FLARKIN.

OKAY, OKAY, ROCKET!
IN THIS IMPROBABLE, IMPOSSIBLE REALITY,
A KREE BREATHES FIRE.

CAN WE GET ON WITH THE GAME?!

CAROL DANVERS a.k.a.
CAPTAIN MARVEL
Avenger, Guardian, here to punch holes in the sky.

OKAY, OKAY, LISTEN UP!

"OUT OF THE INKY BLACKNESS OF THE COSMOS,
A NEW THREAT APPEARS! IT'S SO FRIGHTENING,
SO SCARY, YOU--"

DING DING DING

OH HELL NO.

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HEY, GUYS, IT'S
ME! YOUR BESTEST,
FAVORITE FRIEND,
PETER QUILL!

DUDE, I
WAS ON A
ROLL!

I AM
GROOOOOT!

YOU
INTERRUPTED
GAME
NIGHT!

PRANK
CALL, HANG
UP.

FOR MY
MOVE, I KILL
PETER.

GUYS, GUYS!
YOU KNOW I RESPECT
THE SANCTITY OF
GAME NIGHT--

NOT
ENOUGH TO
ATTEND
IT!

I WOULDN'T
INTERRUPT IT EXCEPT FOR
AN EMERGENCY!

I'M
IN BIG
TROUBLE.
LIKE, FOR
REAL.

"IT STARTED WHEN KITTY AND
I SNUCK INTO MISTER KNIFE'S
FLYING FORTRESS...

"...DON'T ASK
ME HOW."

I SWEAR,
THE LAUNDRY
COMES BACK SMELLING
WORSE THAN WHEN IT
GOES OUT.

I SWEAR,
YOU SAY THE
SAME THING
EVERY
WEEK.

WHAT THE
HELL--?



"...WAS WAY **MORE** THAN WE BARGAINED FOR."

BEHOLD...
A GATEWAY
TO INFINITE
POWER.

THE BLACK VORTEX

KNIFE,
DO YOU REALLY
EXPECT ME TO BE
IMPRESSIONED--

--WITH THIS
PIECE OF ANTIQUE
GARBAGE?

BEHOLD
AGAIN,
THANE.

THE LAST
LIVING BLOOD
BROTHER. HE AND HIS
SIBLING ONCE SHARED A
CONNECTION. THEIR
POWER FED OFF
EACH OTHER.

SINCE HIS TWIN
BROTHER DIED...HE
HAS BEEN STARVED OF
THAT POWER. WASTING
AWAY IN SPITE OF HIS
WARRIOR SPIRIT.

BUT
THERE IS A
SOLUTION!

I...I...I
SUBMIT TO
THE BLACK
VORTEX.

YEEAARGH--!

THE OLD
BROTHER IS
GONE. MAY I
PRESENT
TO YOU--

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF...

RAAAAAGUH!

--BROTHER BLOOD!
THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE NEWLY RE-CHRISTENED--

--SLAUGHTER LORDS!

FATHER DIABLO
Smoke monster from Planet X.

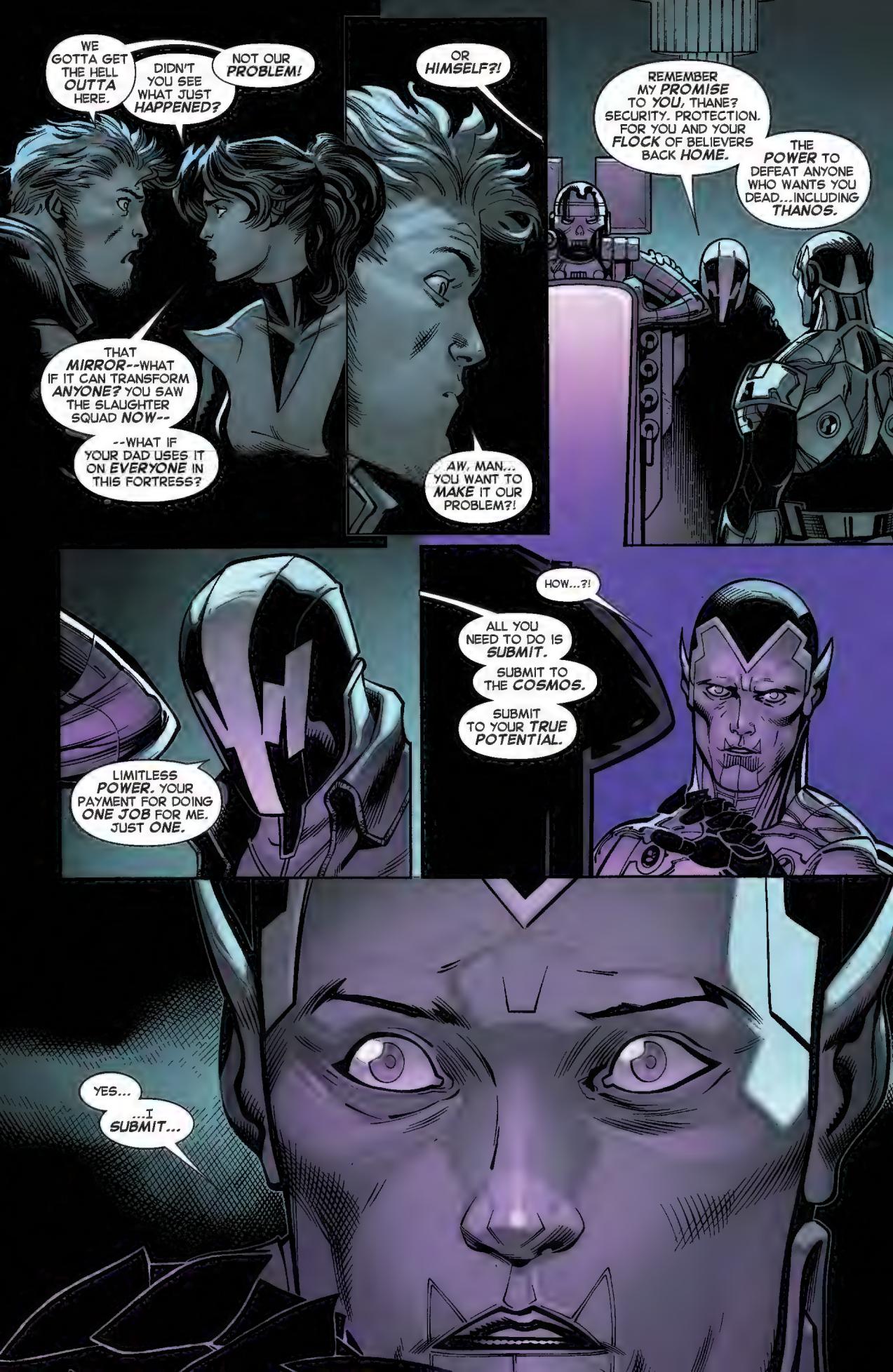
DELPHINIA
Exiled Centaurian.

CZAR DOON
Veteran of cosmic crime.

MISA THE HUNTER
Shi'ar assassin.

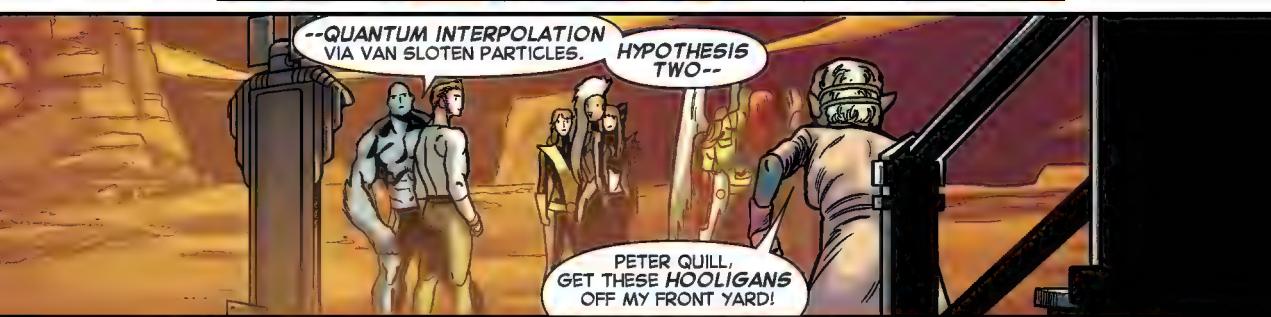
OH CRAP. THOSE ARE THE GUYS WHO KIDNAPPED YOU!

YEAH, BUT THEY DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THAT.



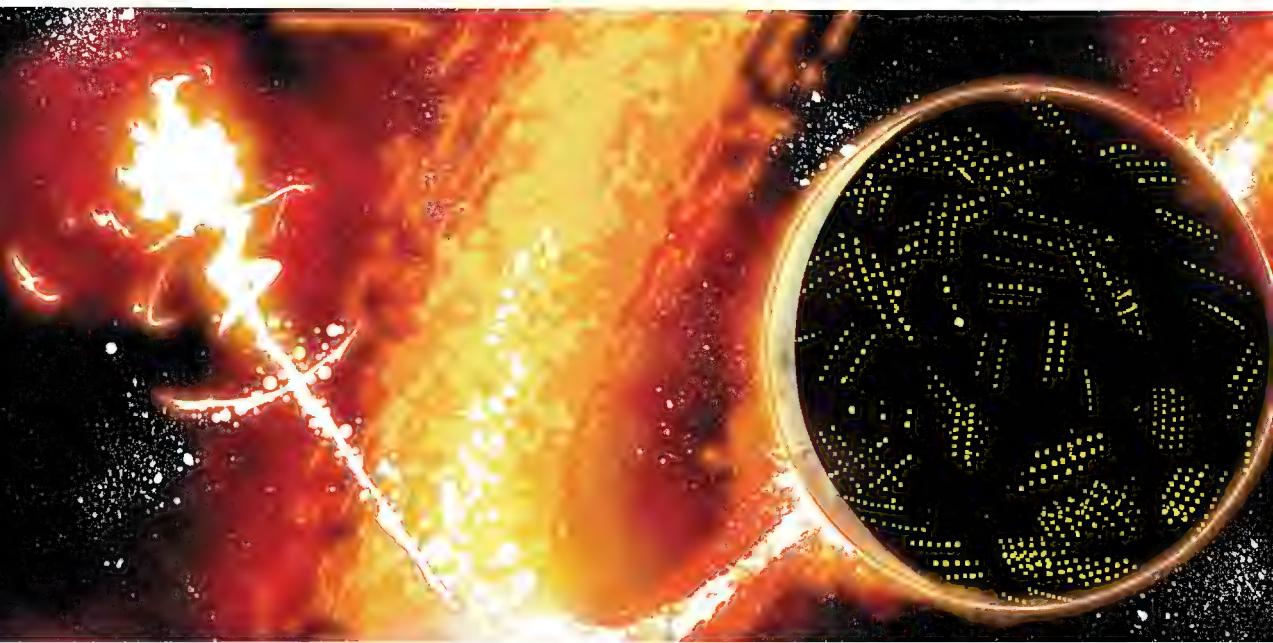












PLANET VISCARD!
ONE YEAR AFTER THE ADVENT OF THE BLACK VORTEX.



NEVER.

--DESTROY
THE BLACK
VORTEX!

NEVER,
ADRON!

IT
DESTROYED US...
STOP BEFORE
IT DESTROYS
YOU--

*

GODHEAD!

WE DID ASK
AS YOU ASKED! ALL
VISCARDI SUBMITTED
TO THE BLACK
VORTEX!

IS THIS
WHAT YOU
SOUGHT?!

FOR OUR
ONCE-NOBLE RACE
TO BE TORN APART
AND ANNIHILATED
FROM WITHIN?

IS THIS
WHAT YOU
WANTED?

I AM
GARA, THE
LAST OF THE
VISCARDI!!

ANSWER ME,
GODHEAD!

**ANSWER
ME!**

NO.

VRSSSH

HOW DARE
YOU ABANDON
US NOW--?!

COME BACK,
GODHEAD!



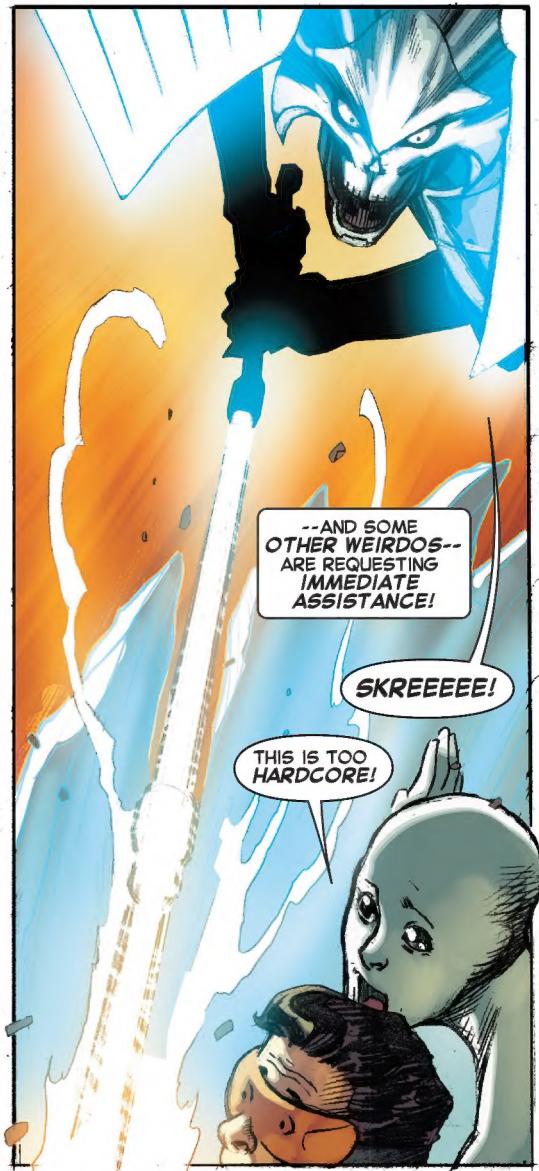
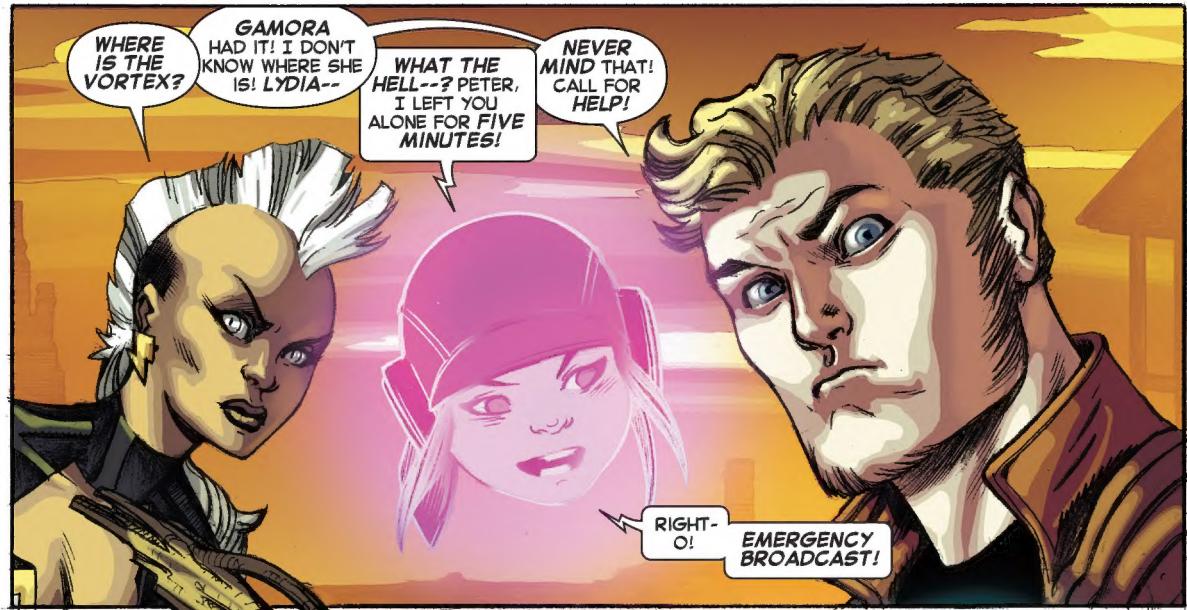




BAPOOM

BROKOBLOOM









YOU
AREN'T GOING
ANYWHERE.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
THE BLACK VORTEX CHAPTER 2:
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #24!

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

FOLLOW THE SAGA OF THE BLACK VORTEX IN
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #24



THE BLACK
VORTEX ALPHA #1

GUARDIANS OF
THE GALAXY #24

LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #9

ALL-NEW
X-MEN #38

ALL-NEW
X-MEN #39

GUARDIANS
TEAM-UP #3

GUARDIANS OF
THE GALAXY #25

NOVA #28

LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #10

CYCLOPS #12

CAPTAIN
MARVEL #14

LEGENDARY
STAR-LORD #11

THE BLACK VORTEX
OMEGA #1